

Wayne Allard

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COLORADO TO RECEIVE \$11.2 MILLION TO PLAN FOR POSSIBLE BIOTERRORISM ATTACK ALLARD CALLS HHS FUNDS GOOD NEWS FOR COLORADO'S ON GOING EFFORTS TO COMBAT BIOTERRORISM

Washington, D.C. – U.S. Senator Wayne Allard (R-CO) today was informed by Health & Human Services (HHS) Secretary Tommy Thompson that the State of Colorado will receive \$11.2 million from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) to fight bioterrorism.

“This \$11.2 million in funding from HHS is extremely important in assisting the State of Colorado with its on going efforts to combat bioterrorism,” said Senator Allard. “These funds will assist local communities deal with possible bioterrorism attacks and develop a state response plan.”

The funds will be used to carry-out comprehensive bioterrorism preparedness plans and to expand existing programs to enhance community response. The \$11.2 million is part of a total \$16.4 million the state will receive from HHS. In February, the state received an initial \$3.2 million in funding. Of the total funding given to Colorado, \$14.8 million will be used by the State of Colorado to create and carry-out a statewide plan to respond to bioterrorism attacks and outbreaks of infectious disease. The remaining \$1.5 million will be used by hospitals to create regional plans to deal with potential outbreaks or attacks.

“Hospitals, local governments and health departments play a key role in fighting the outbreak of infectious diseases and working to prevent terrorist attacks,” added Senator Allard. “This funding will help coordinate their efforts.”

The \$16.4 million for Colorado is part of the \$2.9 billion allocated for bioterrorism in the defense appropriations bill that Congress passed in December. Each state was given a base \$5 million and additional funds based on its share of the total U.S. population.

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